



ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION VARIANCE APPLICATION

VARIANCE APPLICATION INFORMATION

\$73.00 Variance Request Processing Fee. A check for this amount must accompany your request.

PLEASE ALLOW A MINIMUM OF TWO WEEKS FOR PROCESSING

What is a variance?

A variance is an allowable deviation from specific requirements of a National Electrical Code (NEC) section, or the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-46B where the proposed alternate methods will maintain equivalent safety.

What won't a variance do?

A variance will not avoid compliance with the intention of the section or rule. A variance is not a way to recover from an installation or design error. A variance will not be granted if the alternate method would reduce the safety of the installation or equipment.

What does a variance cover?

If the variance is granted, it shall be limited to the particular case(s) covered in the application and will NOT be applicable to future installations or equipment. The variance may be revoked for cause.

What if the variance is denied?

When a request for variance is denied, an appeal may be directed to the Electrical Board, as provided in RCW 19.28. Interim acceptance of the installation, pending outcome of an appeal, will be at the discretion of the Department of Labor & Industries and MUST be in writing.

Who may apply for a variance?

Only the property owner or electrical contractor, those responsible for compliance with RCW 19.28, may apply for a variance.

Who grants a variance?

A variance is granted only by the Chief Electrical Inspector upon request, in writing, under the authority of RCW 19.28 and the National Electrical Code Section 90-4, a portion of which states: *"The authority having jurisdiction may waive specific requirements in this Code or permit alternative methods, where it is assured that equivalent objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective safety."*

Mail all applications to:

Chief Electrical Inspector
Department of Labor and Industries
PO Box 44460
Olympia, WA 98504-4460
360-902-5249
Fax: 360-902-5229

Department of Labor and Industries
Electrical Section
PO Box 44460
Olympia WA 98504-4460
www.Lni.wa.gov



ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION VARIANCE APPLICATION

PLEASE ALLOW TWO WEEKS FOR PROCESSING
INCLUDE \$73.00 - REQUIRED PROCESSING FEE

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|-----|--|
| Applicant Name | | | |
| Address | | | |
| City | State | Zip | |
| Contact Person | | | |
| Phone Number | Fax Number | | |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Electrical Contractor | |
| Property Owner | |
| Location where variance is requested | |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Variance requested from | |
| NEC Section | |
| And/or WAC 296-46B | |

Which reads as follows:

Statement of problem:

Alternate Method Proposal:

Alternate Proposal continued:

Has the installation been made? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has a correction notice been issued by the department? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please complete the following:

a. Date of Violation?

b. Location

c. Name of inspector who issued correction notice

Please attach:

1. A diagram or one line drawing, manufacturers brochure (s), and/or other information to support your application.
2. A copy of the original correction notice, if issued.